

**Ohio State University Libraries**  
**June 2005**  
**ALA Annual Round Robin**  
**ALCTS Technical Services Directors of Large Research Libraries Group**

**Renovation of Main Library Delayed**

The capital budget passed by the State of Ohio this spring provided a lower level of funding than requested for the renovation project. Therefore, the University delayed the start of construction by one year. The design development phase of the project is nearly complete, and we anticipate moving out of the building during summer 2006. We are moving ahead with several construction projects to prepare the swing space, including addition of a Learning Commons to another library facility where many of our public services will be relocated during the renovation.

**OCLC Connexion**

Our extensive in-house training effort for Connexion was completed, enabling a seamless transition when OCLC ended support for Passport for Windows this month.

Magda El-Sherbini, head of Cataloging, organized and participated in the Connexion Arabic/CJK test field conducted by OCLC.

**Map Cataloging Project**

A project was begun to catalog a large number of maps on site in our Geology Library using a student assistant trained by Cataloging Dept. to search OCLC and save the records online. Catalogers then retrieve the records, evaluate and produce. The project is progressing very well. There has been interest for some time in having these maps cataloged.

**Fund Simplification**

Several steps toward our goal of fund simplification were accomplished during the June 2005 fiscal rollover. The process took much longer than usual because of all of the changes being implemented as part of an overall strategy intended to allow collection managers more flexibility in using the materials budget and to reduce the number of funds and the time involved in fund management. However, the project was well planned and it went smoothly. The changes included implementation of a "lien" option in the INNOPAC system intended to result in a more easily understood system for tracking our serials expenditures.

### **Accounting Reorganization**

After undergoing an lengthy internal audit process last year, we decided to take better advantage of the expertise of the Libraries' Senior Accountant by having the Technical Services Accounting Unit (4 FTE staff positions) report to her effective July 1. The unit will remain physically located within the Technical Services Division for proximity to files and to other Technical Services departments, although the staff will become members of the Administrative Services Division. This realignment also is expected to allow Technical Services to devote more high-level resources to the management of digital resources and initiatives.

### **Virtual Approvals**

Training for all selectors on use of virtual YBP approvals was completed, and we stopped receiving physical YBP approvals in March. Planning continued on moving Harrassowitz approvals to the virtual model.

### **Electronic Resources Management**

Trisha Davis's suggestion to evolve the DLF ERMI standard for license terms into an actionable structure for use in ER management systems resulted in a new DLF initiative to draft, test and prepare guidelines for interpreting license terms into ERMI fields which can then populate the ERM system. The ARL is sponsoring an ALA preconference in June 2005 to showcase and discuss the work done to date.

### **"Future of the Catalog"**

We continued to think about the relationship between the Libraries' catalog and the Knowledge Bank, OSU's developing institutional repository. For example, procedures were devised for creating catalog records for oral history tapes for which transcripts were subsequently added to Knowledge Bank. We have not yet come to a clear understanding of what the relationship will be among these various processes for making information resources accessible. For now, we are doing a lot of linking to maximize discovery.

### **Personnel**

We filled our Electronic Resources Librarian position in May and were fortunate also to be able to hire a Diversity Resident Librarian to assist the head of our Monographs Dept. We were able to add a librarian to the Cataloging Dept. to help manage the growing volume of electronic theses and dissertations. At the same time, however, we are beginning to experience retirements of Technical Services personnel who have been at

the Libraries for many years. We are trying to anticipate these losses and prepare for them by hiring additional personnel before the vacancies actually occur to allow for some knowledge transfer from our most experienced people before they leave.